

## **Historic, archived document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# NBC

ADVERTISER

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE

SUSTAINING

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #485

(

TIME

BLUE

(

DATE

(

DAY

)

11:30 - 12:15 P.M.

MAY 8, 1942

FRIDAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS





1. ANNOUNCER: Those marvelous products of recent years -- rayon yarns, and  
 2. rayon fabrics and the many plastic products like the new motion  
 3. picture film, phonograph records, imitation leather, and a host of other  
 4. modern articles -- have their origin in wood. And they weren't derived  
 5. simply by cutting down trees in the forest. No indeed. It took all the  
 6. courage and wisdom of science - progressive scientific research, to perform  
 7. these miracles in wood....In the Forest Products Laboratory at Madison,  
 8. Wisconsin, Uncle Sam has the largest forest products research plant in the  
 9. world. And right now, as in World War One, the men of the Forest Products  
 10. Laboratory are giving all their scientific knowledge and time to the needs  
 11. of our Army and Navy and the war industries for the conversion of ordinary  
 12. wood into products of war. Their combined efforts are directed toward the  
 13. production of the most efficient and most effective war materials possible  
 14. in this age of science....they are working day and night so that wood can be  
 15. made to play its full and proper share in winning the war.....

16. JERRY: Now, once again, to the Pine Cone National Forest where we find  
 17. Jerry Quick still in charge of the district in the absence of Ranger Jim  
 18. Robbins who's away on a special war assignment. Well, it's lunchtime on  
 19. the Pine Cone and we join Jerry as he recounts to Jim's wife, Bess, his  
 20. latest difficult moment. Here they are..... Jerry.

21. JERRY: Well, I was telling the boys, like Elvira said, about Jim's  
 22. reaction to a lot of the poor logging operations he's seen, and  
 23. how it wasn't necessary, because with a little common sense we  
 24. could get out the wood for war we needed without all that waste  
 25. of foolish destruction.

BESS: I don't see how there could be any argument there.



ANNOUNCER: Those marvelous products of recent years -- rayon yarns, and rayon fabrics and the many plastic products like the new modern picture film, phonograph records, imitation leather, and a host of other modern articles -- have their origin in wood. And they weren't derived simply by cutting down trees in the forest. No indeed. It took all the courage and wisdom of science -- progressive scientific research, to produce these miracles in wood.... In the Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin, Uncle Sam has the largest forest products research plant in the world. And right now, as in World War One, the men of the Forest Products Laboratory are giving all their scientific knowledge and time to the needs of our Army and Navy and the war industries for the conversion of ordinary wood into products of war. Their combined efforts are directed toward the production of the most efficient and most effective war materials possible in this age of science.... they are working day and night so that wood can be made to play its full and proper share in winning the war.....

Now, once again, to the Pine Cone National Forest where we find Jerry Quick still in charge of the district in the absence of Ranger Jim Robbins who's away on a special war assignment. Well, it's lunchtime on the Pine Cone and we join Jerry as he recounts to Jim's wife, Bess, his latest difficult moment. Here they are.....



1. FADE IN CLATTER OF EATING UTENSILS - SUSTAIN

2. JERRY: (FADING IN) The big bohunk. Thought he was smart getting me

3. into an argument before Andy and all the boys down there at the

4. store. Well, I told him a thing or two even if he is the chairman

5. of the school board.

6. BESS: Maybe Mr. Hudgins just wanted to tease you, Jerry.

7. JERRY: Tease me, nothing. Look, Mrs. Robbins, I was tellin' the boys

8. about Jim, see? About his trip to Washington and the forests of

9. New England and about his telephone call from Minnesota last week.

10. You know, all about where he's been and what he's been doin' an'.

11. BESS: And about how upset he was over the waste and destruction he's

12. run across so many places in the forests?

13. JERRY: Huh? How do you know what I was talkin' about?

14. BESS: (LAUGHS) Jerry, you forgot there were other people in Andy's

15. store at the time.

16. JERRY: Sufferin' catfish! Elmira....she heard it all?

17. BESS: That's right. Elmira told me all about it.

18. JERRY: Yeah, and probably a lot of other people...anyway, then you know

19. how I told Hudgins off finally?

20. BESS: No. I guess Elmira didn't tell me that, Jerry.

21. JERRY: Well, I was telling the boys, like Elmira said, about Jim's

22. reaction to a lot of the poor logging operations he's seen, and

23. how it wasn't necessary, because with a little common sense we

24. could get out the wood for war we needed without all that waste

25. of foolish destruction.

26. BESS: I don't see how there could be any argument there.



FADE IN CLATTER OF EATING UTENSILS - BUSTAIN

JERRY: (FADING IN) The big boom. Thought he was smart getting me into an argument before Andy and all the boys down there at the store. Well, I told him a thing or two even if he is the owner of the school board.

BESS: Maybe Mr. Huggins just wanted to tease you, Jerry.  
JERRY: Tease me, nothing. Look, Mrs. Hobbins, I was telling the boys about Jim, see? About his trip to Washington and the forests of New England and about his telephone call from Minnesota last week. You know, all about where he's been and what he's been doing. And about how upset he was over the waste and destruction he's run across so many places in the forests?

JERRY: Hmm? How do you know what I was talking about?  
BESS: (LAUGHS) Jerry, you forgot there were other people in Andy's store at the time.  
JERRY: Botherin' cattle! Elmita... she heard it all!

BESS: That's right. Elmita told me all about it.  
JERRY: Yeah, and probably a lot of other people... anyway, then you know how I told Huggins off finally?  
BESS: No. I guess Elmita didn't tell me that, Jerry.

JERRY: Well, I was telling the boys, like Elmita said, about Jim's reaction to a lot of the poor logging operations he's seen, and how it wasn't necessary, because with a little common sense we could get out the wood for war we needed without all that waste of foolish destruction.  
BESS: I don't see how there could be any argument there.



1. JERRY: The boys were all with me. I'll say that for 'em. But just about  
2. then Hudgins started in on me. He said what I was advocating  
3. sounded to him like I wanted to obstruct things and interfere with  
4. providing timber for the war.

5. BESS: What did you say then, Jerry?

6. JERRY: Well, we went all over this conservation program of ours and I  
7. tried to show him how important it is to control forest cutting  
8. these days, how important it is to make provision for timber in  
9. the future while we're providing the wood our war machine needs  
10. for Victory today. He just couldn't see it.

11. BESS: Was that when he asked you if the Forest Service would go along  
12. with cutting the forests clean, destroying them completely if we  
13. had to do that to win the war?

14. JERRY: Yeah. That's when I got so mad I could've conked him.

15. BESS: How did you answer him, Jerry?

16. JERRY: I told him that if it was absolutely necessary we'd give  
17. everything we've got, forests and all, to win this war, but that  
18. anybody that knew anything at all about forestry knew that it  
19. wasn't necessary, and more than that, destroying our forest  
20. resources would be a good way to help lose the war. And that's  
21. absolutely true, Mrs. Robbins. The boys got a big kick out of  
22. that.

23. BESS: Yes, I know. And then Mr. Hudgins came over and shook your hand  
24. didn't he Jerry? I know he did because Elmira saw the two of you  
25. shaking hands. Don't you see, Jerry? Mr. Hudgins wasn't a bit  
serious in his side of the argument. He was just drawing you out  
and making you own argument more forceful, and he was proud of the  
stand you took. I know.



The boys were all with me. I'll say that for 'em. But just when Huggins started in on me. He said what I was advocating sounded to him like I wanted to obstruct things and interfere providing timber for the war.

What did you say then, Jerry?

Well, we went all over this conservation program of ours and I tried to show him how important it is to control forest cutting these days, how important it is to make provision for timber in the future while we're providing the wood our war machine needs for victory today. He just couldn't see it.

Was that when he asked you if the Forest Service would go along with cutting the forests clean, destroying them completely if he had to do that to win the war?

Yeah. That's when I got so mad I could've conked him.

How did you answer him, Jerry?

I told him that it was absolutely necessary we'd give

everything we've got, forests and all, to win this war, but anybody that knew anything at all about forestry knew that it wasn't necessary, and more than that, destroying our forest

resources would be a good way to help lose the war. And that's absolutely true, Mrs. Robbins. The boys got a big kick out of that.

Yes, I know. And then Mr. Huggins came over and shook your hand didn't he Jerry? I know he did because Elmita saw the two of you shaking hands. Don't you see, Jerry? Mr. Huggins wasn't a big serious in his side of the argument. He was just drawing you out and making you own argument more forceful, and he was proud of stand you took. I know.

JERRY:

BESS:

JERRY:

BESS:

JERRY:

BESS:

JERRY:

BESS:



JERRY: Well, maybe so. He sure drew me out all right. Believe me, Mrs. Robbins, for a moment there I was mad enough to sock him and I would've too, if he wasn't Mary's boss.

BESS: Say, have you heard from Mary since she arrived in Chicago?

JERRY: Yeah. Got a letter this morning. Her sister's feeling better. Mary said she thought she'd try to run up to Madison and see him before he leaves the Forest Products Laboratory. I should've told you before now.

BESS: That's all right, Jerry. You've had a great deal on your mind. I guess Jim is probably at the Laboratory today. I hope Mary does get a chance (FADE) to see him there.....

PAUSE:

FADE IN WHIR OF MACHINERY IN BACKGROUND

JIM: (FADE IN) Well, Mary, I'm sure glad you got to come up this way while I was here. Seeing you here is one of the nicest things that's happened to me on this trip.

MARY: (LAUGHING) You're still the same old flatterer, Mr. Robbins. But I like it.

JIM: What I want to know is...how in the world did you ever get into this building? Visitors aren't allowed in here nowadays.

MARY: Well, it was a job I can tell you. The guard at the entrance checked and rechecked a dozen times before he told me I could see you. And I had to promise him I wouldn't leave this floor.

JIM: Well, you're here any way. There's a lot of interesting things right here on this floor that you might like to see.





1. MARY: I'd never be able to face my schoolchildren back in Winding River  
2. if I couldn't tell them a little something at least about the  
3. Forest Products Laboratory.

4. JIM: Well, there's something over there that farm folks in particular  
5. would enjoy knowin' about.

6. MARY: You mean that odd arrangement of logs on those wooden horse posts?

7. JIM: Yep. Those are posts, Mary, ordinary fence posts.

8. MARY: Why are they placed on a slant? And what's the idea of those  
9. tubes attached to the upper end of each one, Mr. Robbins? And  
10. those large bottles turned upside down into the tubes?

11. JIM: The whole thing's a new kind of preservative treatment the Lab  
12. men are working on, Mary. See the liquid in those bottles?

13. MARY: Yes?

14. JIM: Well, that's a chemical that's got a high power of penetration.  
15. It drips down on the inside of the hose into the ends of the posts  
16. see, until it's well absorbed through the wood. The idea is to  
17. get a post that'll last a long time, without rotting.

18. MARY: But I thought they treated posts and poles with creosote.

19. JIM: Yep. That's right. Creosote's about the best stuff that's been  
20. found to preserve wood. But don't forget, Mary, creosote's  
21. had to get these days and the boys here at the Lab think it  
22. might be still harder to get as the war goes on. The forester's  
23. job here is to find other low-cost preservative treatments  
24. that'll serve to do the job for now. That's what the boys are  
25. working on.

...I never in a life as long as I have lived...  
...it I couldn't tell them a little something...  
...Toward the end of the day...  
...tell them something over there that I have...  
...I mean that the arrangement of legs on these...  
...legs, those are passed, Mary, ordinary...  
...why are they placed on a plant? And what's the...  
...these attached to the upper end of each one, Mr. ...  
...these large bones turned upside down into the...  
...The whole thing is a new kind of preservative...  
...and are working on, Mary. See the ... in these...  
...tell them a chemical that's got a high power of...  
...it dips down in the inside of the bone into the...  
...and when it's well absorbed through the wood, the...  
...get a piece that's been a long time without rotting...  
...let them know about the best about this...  
...toward the preservative wood. But don't forget, Mary, ...  
...not to get the ... and the boys have at the ...  
...after the still harder to get as the war goes on...  
...for them to find other ... - cost preservative...  
...it seems to be the job for now. That's what the...



1. MARY: I see... What's that great big funny-looking machine that's  
 2. running now in that other room, there? The one that's shaking  
 3. do?

4. JIM: You mean the shimmy machine? Yeah, that's what the boys call  
 5. it. C'mon let's look 'er over.

6. BRING ON LOUDER SINGLE MACHINE OCCASIONAL THUMP

7. MARY: There's a wooden box in there, Mr. Robbins, my, it's getting  
 8. terrific shaking and thumping, isn't it?

9. JIM: Yep. One of the most important jobs here in the Laboratory,  
 10. Mary, has been the work on boxes and other shipping containers  
 11. made outa wood. The men here work out all kinds of box  
 12. specifications and construction. It's their job to find the  
 13. kind of wood and the strongest and most efficient designs that  
 14. can go into boxes for shipping war materials.

15. MARY: And this shimmy machine here?

16. JIM: It's one of several testing outfits we've got here in the Lab.  
 17. That box in there is being tested to see if it can take it,  
 18. to see if it's strong enough to stay together under all kinds  
 19. of rough handling.

20. MARY: Well, that's specially interesting, Mr. Robbins, but you know  
 21. something?

22. JIM: What's that?

23. MARY: Well frankly, I'm...well, on the whole... I'm a little disap-  
 24. pointed?

...in the other room, that's what I mean.

For mean the shiny machine? Yeah, that's what I mean.

Then let's look 'em over.

There's a wooden box in there, Mr. Goshaw, it's a...

...it's shaking and clanking, isn't it?

Yeah, that's the most important job here in the...

Yeah, has been the work on boxes and other things...

Yeah, over wood, the new boxes work out all kinds of...

...specifications and construction. It's their job to find...

...kind of wood and the strongest and most efficient design...

...and go into boxes for shipping war materials.

...and this is the machine here?

...the use of several testing outfits you get here...

...that's the one in being tested to see if it's...

...to see if it's strong enough to carry several hundred...

...on this?

...Yeah, that's the one, on the whole... I'm a little bit...



1. MARY: Yes, I know there's some mighty important work going on here, and  
 2. all these men at the work tables and all these different kinds of  
 3. machines... well, I know each one is doing an important job. I can  
 4. see now carefully they have to watch and adjust all the levers and  
 5. meters and all and I know that it takes time to work out the  
 6. experiments, but, well.....

7. JIM: What are you driving at, Mary?

8. MARY: Well, it's not nearly as dramatic or exciting as I pictured it  
 9. would be in here with a war on.....

10. JIM: Mary, science isn't all drama. It takes long hard, patient hours  
 11. of work to get the fine results. Sometimes things don't work out  
 12. and.....

13. MARY: I realize that, Mr. Robbins, but... oh, well, I guess I expected  
 14. to see the impossible... men putting a log into a machine and  
 15. presto, out comes a full fledged airplane or something.

16. JIM: Well, something like that is taking place, but not that simply,  
 17. Mary.

18. MARY: I know... it's just that I expected something different.

19. JIM: O.K., young lady if it's a dramatic example you want to trot  
 20. along with me, right after lunch. There's a circus in town,  
 21. and I want you to see an elephant act that's scheduled (FADE)  
 22. for this afternoon.

23. PAUSE:

24. FADE IN CIRCUS BAND, CROWN BACKGROUND, SUSTAIN

25. MARY: Oh, this is exciting, Mr. Robbins, but I don't understand what it  
 has to do with.....

... I know there's some mighty important work going on here...  
all these men at the work tables and all these different machines...  
... well, I know each one is doing an important job...  
... now carefully they have to watch and adjust all the...  
... meters and all and I know that it takes time to work out the...  
... experiments, but, well,....

What are you driving at, Harry?  
Well, it's not nearly as dramatic or exciting as I expected it...  
... would be in here with a war on....  
... Harry, science isn't all drama. It takes long hard, patient...  
... of work to get the fine results. Sometimes things don't work

... realize that, Mr. Robbins, but... well, I guess I expected...  
... to see the immediate... men getting a leg into a machine and...  
... presto, out comes a full sized airplane or something...  
... well, something like that is taking place, but not just like...  
... Harry.

I know that I expected something different...  
... well, young lady it is a dramatic example you want to see...  
... along with me, right after lunch. There's a circus in town...  
... and I want you to see an elephant act that's absolutely (laugh)

... Harry is excited, Mr. Robbins, but I don't understand...  
... Harry is excited, Mr. Robbins, but I don't understand...



1. TRUMPETING OF ELEPHANTS

2. JIM: You will in a minute, Mary. Here. Let's stand here near the  
3. elephants. They'll probably put the act on in that open spot  
4. right there in front.

5. MARY: Say, aren't some of those men from the laboratory coming this  
6. way, Mr. Robbins?

7. JIM: That's right. (CALLS) Hello there, Cap! (STRAIGHT) Cap Winslow  
8. director of the Lab, Mary. He didn't see me, I guess too busy  
9. talking to that elephant trainer.

10. MARY: Look, Mr. Robbins. One of the men is putting that shiny piece of  
11. metal across those two railroad ties there.

12. JIM: That's not metal, Mary. It's wood...well, a form of wood any way.

13. MARY: But it's so smooth and polished looking. I can't believe it's  
14. really wood.

15. JIM: Slick as piano finish, huh Mary? Well, it's wood all right and  
16. that's just the way it comes out when the boys at the Lab...

17. MARY: The trainer's bringing one of the elephants over toward it...the  
18. largest elephant in the herd.

19. JIM: Yep. They said they were goin' to use an 8 thousand pounder.  
20. That's four tons of animal standing there, Mary. Now we'll  
21. see if that little piece of wood can take it.

22. MARY: Oh, no. You don't mean they're going to make that great big  
23. elephant stand on that little plate of wood. Why, it's so small  
24. and it's so thin, Mr. Robbins.

25. JIM: Yep, not much more'n 24 inches square I'd say, and not over an  
inch thick. That's what they're going' to do Mary. Watch now.  
See? The trainer's tapping the elephants leg. There goes one  
foot on the plate.





1. MARY: They shouldn't do that, Mr. Robbins. The poor elephant might  
2. hurt himself.

3. JIM: Don't worry! That elephant won't fall off..Well!.there goes the  
4. other front foot.

5. SCATTERED APPLAUSE, OFF

6. MARY: I'm almost afraid to look.

7. JIM: No, watch this, Mary. This oughta be something you can tell  
8. your kids back home about. There! He's up on it, all four feet.  
9. (APPLAUSE) See, it's bent just a little in the center, that's  
10. all....What's Cap Winslow shaking his head for?

11. MARY: He's pointing to where the elephants feet are lapping over the  
12. edge of the wooden plate.

13. JIM: Yep, that's right. Look, the trainer's goin' to make that old  
14. elephant stand up on his hind legs.(GREAT APPLAUSE) By George,  
15. he made it, full weight...See, up on his hind legs, waving his  
16. trunk in the air...Well, Mary, that's close to 4 tons of weight  
17. on that little piece of wood, and she didn't break.

18. MARY: It's almost unbelievable, Mr. Robbins. But what in the world  
19. is it? What did they do to that piece of wood to make it so  
20. strong?

21. JIM: It's what they call comoregnated wood, Mary. Actually it's a  
22. whole bunch of wood layers or veneers specially treated & pressed  
23. together under tremendous pressure. The Forest Service Laboratory  
24. developed it, named it, and introduced it to engineers all over  
25. the country.

MARY: They shouldn't do that, Mr. Robbins. The poor elephant might hurt himself.

JIM: Don't worry! That elephant won't fall off. Well, there was other front foot.

SCATTERED APPLAUSE, OFF

MARY: I'm almost afraid to look.

JIM: No, watch this, Mary. This ought to be something you can tell your kids back home about. There! He's up on it, all four of (APPLAUSE) See, it's bent just a little in the center, that's all.... What's Cap Winslow shaking his head for?

MARY: He's pointing to where the elephant's feet are lapping over the edge of the wooden plate.

JIM: Yep, that's right. Look, the winner's going to make that old elephant stand up on his hind legs. (GREAT APPLAUSE) My George he made it, full weight... See, up on his hind legs, waving his trunk in the air... Well, Mary, that's close to 4 tons of weight on that little piece of wood, and she didn't break.

MARY: It's almost unbelievable, Mr. Robbins. But what in the world is it? What did they do to that piece of wood to make it so strong?

JIM: It's what they call composited wood, Mary. Actually it's a whole bunch of wood layers or veneers specially treated & one together under tremendous pressure. The Forest Service has developed it, named it, and introduced it to engineers all over the country.



1. MARY: It certainly must be strong. What is it used for, this  
2. compregnated wood?

3. JIM: Well, that's a test piece of material that's going into propellor  
4. Mary, propellers for training planes for Uncle Sam's fighting men.

5. MARY: Well, I guess you've kept your promise, Mr. Robbins. This is  
6. certainly as dramatic an example of the Laboratory's work as  
7. I could want to see.

8. JIM: I dunno, Mary. This was just a little test for the benefit of  
9. some investigators visiting here. The real drama will take  
10. place out there on the fightingline when American fliers meet  
11. the enemy and knock 'em out of the sky.

12. MUSICAL FINALE

13. ANNOUNCER: Next week Ranger Jim tackles a fire-training job in the Pacific  
14. Northwest which is preparing now like all the Western forest  
15. country for the most critical fire season in forest history...  
16. Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each Friday during the  
17. Farm and Home Hour with the cooperation of the Forest Service  
18. United States Department of Agriculture.



It certainly must be strong. What is it used for, this

MARY:

compressed wood?

JIM:

Well, that's a test piece of material that's going into propellers for training planes for Uncle Sam's fighting

MARY:

Well, I guess you've kept your promise, Mr. Robbins. This is certainly as dramatic an example of the laboratory's work as

I could want to see.

JIM:

I guess, Mary. This was just a little test for the benefit of some investigators visiting here. The real drama will take place out there on the fighting line when American fliers meet the enemy and knock 'em out of the sky.

#### MUSICAL FINALE

ANNOUNCER:

Next week Ranger Jim tackles a fire-training job in the Pacific Northwest which is preparing us like all the Western forest country for the most critical fire season in forest history. Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers come to you each Friday during the Farm and Home Hour with the cooperation of the Forest Service United States Department of Agriculture.